

AMEDD Center & School

Physical Therapy Branch

LTC Josef Moore, Chief, PT Branch, AMEDD C&S

Happy New Year from the faculty and staff of the PT Branch at the AMEDDC&S. Our 65B and N9 programs are continuing to advance their respective curriculums to meet the ongoing transformation needs of the Corps and the military in general. To this end we too are going through a transformation, particularly with our post-graduate short courses. I'll address those changes and program highlights in a moment.

But first, I would like to say that the Class of '06, the inaugural DPT class is in full swing. The beginning of this class marks another historical milestone in the long tradition of this program, one all 65Bs can take with pride. The process to bring us to this historic event began several years ago. Under the leadership of my predecessors', COL Steve Allison and then LTC(P) Tim Flynn, the faculty, a few current and others now stationed elsewhere, worked diligently to transform our program from the master's to the doctoral level. The result of their vision and efforts will continue to insure that this program leads from the front. However, to be the academic "tip of the spear" in our profession, we need and must rely on all 65Bs to play a vital role. I assure you we are well aware of how much the field means to our success. We hold your input in high esteem and are sincerely grateful!

You will soon notice that our post-graduate short courses are also transforming. Based on today's military strategic environment and the continued emphasis on evidence-based practice (EBP), we too are upgrading our courses to better provide you with current and relevant diagnostic and intervention strategies to use from the clinic to the battlefield. The Advanced Spine Course will now be part of a two week advanced competencies course, which will replace the NMSE course. The new course, title still to be determined, will use a regional approach format, similar to the old NMSE course. We also will offer a new annual course beginning this April titled, "Joint Operational Deployment Course". This course is based on the "sports medicine on the battlefield" concept. It is designed to provide guidance to all military physical therapists on their roles and responsibilities while deployed, whether for combat operations, support/sustainment operations, or an FTX. The course will also offer EBP diagnostic and intervention strategies to help expand your skill set in those environments.

Finally, I would like to say we are proud to announce that military physical therapists are again being recognized with national-level research awards. The below cited studies have been chosen for the 2004 APTA-Sports Section Excellence in Research Award in Sports Medicine and the APTA-Orthopaedic Section Rose Award for Excellence in Research!

Rosenthal MD, Moore JM, Taylor DC, DeBerardino TM. Effect of ACL reconstruction on the femoral nerve H-reflex.

Flynn T, Fritz J, Whitman J, Wainner RS, Magel J, Rendeiro J, Butler B, Garber M, Allison S. A Clinical prediction rule for classifying patients with low back pain who demonstrate short-term improvement with spinal manipulation. *Spine*. 2002; 27: 2835-2843.

The first study is a collaborative effort between our program and the PT-Sports Medicine Doctoral Program at West Point. The second is a collaborative study between our program, the University of Pitt, and the PT-Orthopaedic-MT Doctoral Program at BAMC. With collaborative efforts between our program and the 2 PT doctoral residencies at West Point and BAMC, we have now captured the top APTA research awards for 2004 in sports medicine and orthopaedics. In the history of these awards, this is the third recognition for our program, the second each for the residencies. I believe it is also the first time that both awards were captured simultaneously by the same institutions!

Again, we hope everyone has a safe and healthy new year! We also wish a safe and speedy return for our colleagues deployed or deploying down range!

